

# Nothing in Motion Pictures Nor in Fiction More Surprising, More Dramatic Than the Real Life Career of This Young Adventuress

Miss Kathleen Clifford, the American Stage Star, Who Was Commissioned Honorary Colonel of the British Army for Recruiting a Canadian Regiment, and Whose Recognition of Mme. Storch as the "Mme. Hesqueth" Who Had Been Unmasked in London as a Spy Was the First Warning This Country Had of the Spy's Presence Here.

people. Perhaps her exiles might rehabilitate themselves in their own country by managing this thing in New York—and Washington—and thus reap great political favors from the despised Carranza. And perhaps—

We can see this gallant Mexican exile displaying his suddenly aroused interest and the cautious Nezie playing with him craftily, luring him into her net as the spider draws the fly. For it was just at this time the German Foreign Office, at the instigation of Admiral von Tirpitz, conceived the plan to set Mexico against the United States, with the promise of money without measure, arms and munitions, and with a slice of California and the whole of Texas as her reward for the "easy" victory which Germany promised Mexico would enjoy.

It is evident, though, in the light of State Department disclosures, that Carranza balked. Nezie's aged gallant was cast aside when he could serve her no more. When he, with others whose friendship for her was later disclosed, was sought, he had disappeared.

Many important plans, good and bad, often are spoiled by accidents which could not be foreseen. It was an accident, it is generally believed, which first disclosed the presence in this country of Mme. Nezie.

At the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, where Mme. Storch first appeared in the United States as the "Countess de Beville," there happened to be staying at the time of her arrival a diminutive young woman who is widely known in both this country and England. This was Miss Kathleen Clifford, the famous star of light opera, who for her services in recruiting a whole regiment of Canadians was commissioned an honorary colonel in the British army by the Duke of Connaught.

Miss Clifford, who is very popular with the British public, went to England to offer her services there after she had raised her Canadian regiment. She was in London when England was first aroused

"Countess" before. Then she remembered her as the Mme. Hesqueth who had been unmasked as a spy in England.

Miss Clifford has many friends close to the War Office in London who have cause to remember her voluntary efforts in the cause of the allies. To some of these she communicated her discovery that "Mme. Hesqueth" was in the United States.

Soon after the Department of Justice agents had learned that Mme. Storch, as the Baroness de Beville, had been at the Hotel Shoreham, in Washington, but had left without leaving a clue to her destination, they picked up the trail again in New York. They traced her to the Waldorf-Astoria, where they found she had allowed herself frankly to be known by her correct name—Mme. Storch. There they lost her again, for a time.

When she was again located she occupied a splendid suite at the Biltmore, which by that time had become a popular headquarters for the thousands of army and navy officers continually passing through New York from their bureaus or mobilization camps to join the expeditionary forces. Here she was known as Mme. Nezie.

Soon the Federal agents began to admit that they were puzzled. They learned that the young woman, whom they knew to be one of Germany's most trusted spies, was received in many fashionable homes, where there could be no question of the loyalty of her hosts and hostesses. They reported, too, that among her most intimate friends were persons connected with official life at the nation's capital. They were almost discouraged when their clues led them to the apartment of the Count Robert de Clermont, in West Fifty-eighth street, New York, where, they found, the beautiful Nezie was a frequent visitor—often quite unchaperoned.

The Count de Clermont was one of the most popular young French notables familiar in the foreign circles built up in New York since the great city has become the Mecca of the many military and diplomatic missions from the allied countries. He was prominent in many war charities, and was much sought after by the patronesses of patriotic bazaars and other entertainments given to swell the funds of the many treasuries devoted to the comfort and inspiration of the soldiers of all the allied nations.

Whoever was questioned about the sincerity of the Count de Clermont's patriotism, and his standing, vouched for him without reserve. It could not be possible, the Federal investigators concluded, to distrust him. Nor did it seem possible that he would receive so closely into his friendship, as the frequent visits of Mme. Nezie seemed to imply, a person whose sympathies were suspicious.

The Count de Beville, who was one of Mme. Nezie's most frequent visitors at her hotel, and who, quite apparently, possessed her warm favor; also seemed above reproach. It was very easy to establish the fact that his family was of high standing in France, and his aged father and mother, then living in New York, had long merited the highest regard of their countrymen.

At the French Embassy at Washington the Count de Beville was a frequent visitor. He numbered among his intimates Spanish, French and Russian diplomats of great importance. His social connections were of the very best, and he gave his time and service as well as his pocket-book liberally to any number of war charities. He was an enthusiastic and very successful salesman of Liberty bonds and a persevering worker in the interest of Red Cross affairs.

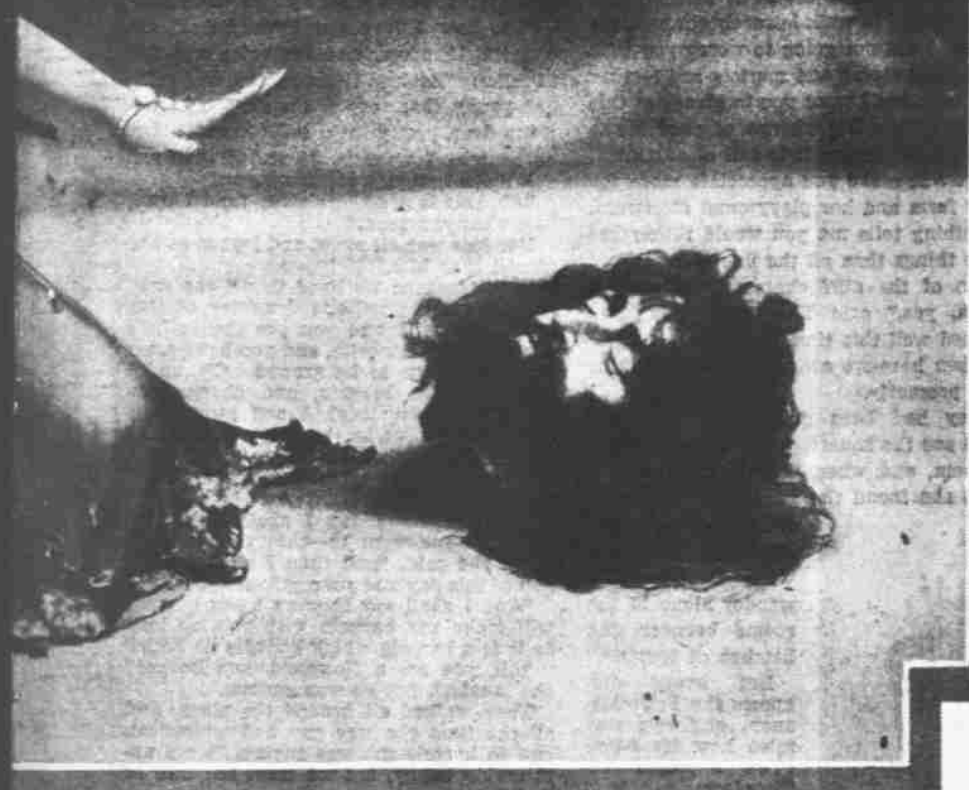
But the agents of the Department of Justice do not always accept appearances for what they seem. There was every reason to believe, for a time, that the young woman they were watching was in some way the victim of mistaken identity or something of that nature. It did not seem that she could be a spy and be so well thought of by the friends she had made—by the two counts, for instance. They did not give up, though. The first reward of their perseverance was the discovery of Mme. Nix.

Mme. Nix also was a frequent visitor at the apartments of the Count de Clermont. She was followed when the Federal agents began to investigate the acquaintances of Mme. Storch's intimates, and it was found she lived in considerable state at the fashionable Netherlands Hotel. Close surveillance revealed large remittances of money coming regularly to Mme. Nix. It was not difficult to learn that Mme. Storch paid her hotel bills and indulged in periodical extravaganzas, such as the purchase of many new gowns, costly hats and silk stockings of the \$20 per pair variety in dozen pair lots, almost immediately after the receipt of her remittances by Mme. Nix.

After a while it was learned that Mme. Nix had mysterious connections—pro-German sympathizers; that she had come to this country with none other than the Count de Clermont; that she had been in the background wherever Mme. Storch had appeared in Europe, and, finally, that she had been a frequent caller upon Count von Bernstorff before his expulsion from this country.

Next week on this page will be told the fascinating story of how the young Mme. Storch was trapped at last.

(To Be Continued Next Sunday)



American Dancer, in Her Performance of Oscar Wilde's "Salome," Her Depiction of "the Book of the 47,000," Consisting of Names of Leading Men with Disgraceful Charges Against Them Compiled by German Spies

and her beauty as trump cards played for her masters in accustomed to finding many slave themselves to feminine and found weakness of will and very diplomatic or official circuits and plans of nations were legal tender as payment for man's favor.

ame to America Mme. Storch, "em lady," found men of a timber. Her physical beauty red, and her coquettish "for-her immediate popularity, ed that in this country loyalty was a thing above price. She adopt new tactics in carrying Berlin in the United States—ays the tactics of the siren and

he Intelligence Department of Office there is hid away until e interesting story of Major akopensky, the seven-foot, tall ar's bodyguard at Petrograd, ays of the war, who appeared ultaneously with Mme. Storch, a from here to his execution in

West Major Schwartskopensky d for the entertaining lectures s part in the war, which in the 16 he gave in all the larger-Imposing and dashing in his and surrounded with the arity with the secrets of the onoffs, he was a romantic y lecture bureaus, church min's clubs, who gave him oppor- audiences.

red Major Schwartskopensky's asia's efforts to keep the Ger- country will be astonished to few months ago the former an was executed in the Tower was arrested in the United ation of the British authori- re a court-martial in London, e quickly decided upon. The orch was easily discernible in the major in this country, and his arrest the efforts to trap e doubled.

kopensky was for many years isted spies. He had belonged ily that had settled in East rman auspices he was placed and his rapid promotion was power in the Russian capital d in this country at the same appeared he introduced himself aped from Siberia, where, he sent by the Czar for a minor dy gained sympathy because ayation to the cause of the ing manners captivated many

arranged it is now almost cer- and of Mme. Storch, to whom, made his reports in this coun- ty into Western cities, where nd naval depots or great muni- factories where munitions were as in a position to study closely ases and mobilization districts ashington of Mme. Storch was y the development in this ng for the ill-fated Sinn Fein d. Only lately has it been

disclosed that the German Am- bassador at Washington, Count von Bernstorff, was secretly en- gaged, soon after the mysterious conference between him and Mme. Storch immediately after she reached Washington from Cuba, in fomenting the Irish in- surrection from this country.

Mme. Storch was sent from Washington to New York by von Bernstorff. In that secret interview, as already described on these pages, the Ambassador gave to the young spy \$25,000. It has never been satisfactorily proven just how this fund was used by Mme. Storch, but all indications point to her using it in cultivating the confidence of one company of Sinn Fein sympathizers in New York and in bribing others.

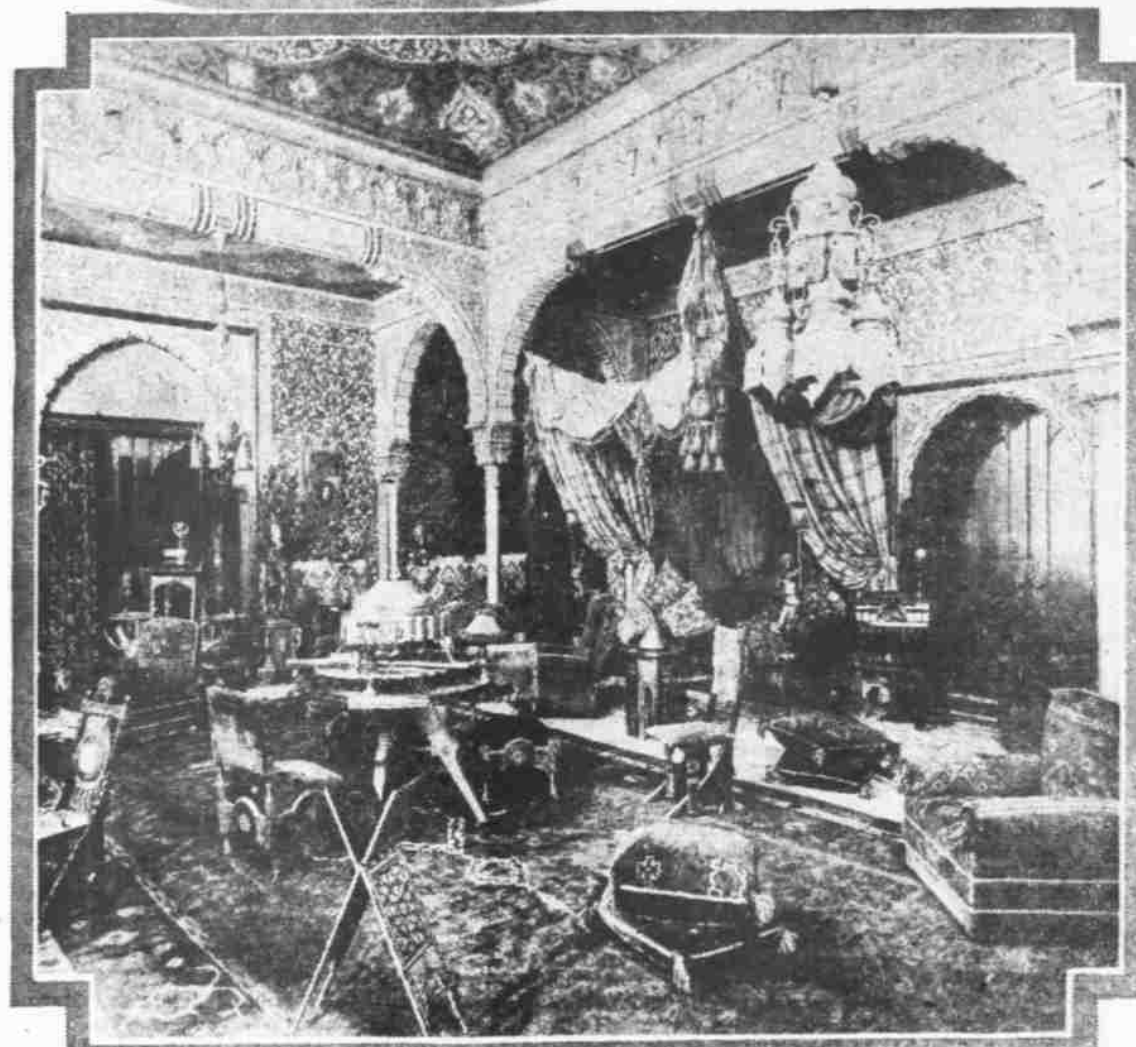
Mme. Storch soon separated true Irish sym- pathizers from those who sought only to make capital out of their power to urge dissension. Upon these she used different methods to bring their aid to Germany's plans. With them she pleaded "the cause of Ireland." Equipped as she was with an inexhaustible fund of information, gathered during her visits to the German spy headquarters in Glasgow in the company of the British officer, as heretofore related, she was able to convince Sinn Fein agents here that her heart "bled for their country."

When she said these things Mme. Storch put her "bleeding heart" into her eyes. She had been well schooled in coquetry and the play of emotions. More than one of those men who were influenced to send encouragement to the Sinn Fein from New York to Ireland and whose words had important bearing upon the cata- strophe that the revolt proved to be, were in- spired by the charming young woman whose passionate pleadings they could not resist. Some of them were even persuaded by her to go to Ire- land themselves, to "help when the time came." They were shot, or are now in prison.

That Mme. Storch played a part in the at- tempts of her masters to cause trouble between this country and Mexico is disclosed by her friendships with various prominent Mexicans who were semi-official representatives of the southern republic in this country. Among these was an elderly financier who had been prominently connected with the Felix Diaz regime in Mexico. He fled to this country when it became no longer safe for anti-Carranzistas to remain within the reach of the Carranza power. His family connections retained for him however, a potent influence in the political affairs of Mexico, an influence all the more weighty because of his large estates, safely held for him by relatives who remained in the good graces of Carranza, and his huge money re- sources.

Perhaps it was the Count de Beville, who suc- ceeded in meeting many important personages through his unquestionable family standing, that suggested to Mme. Nezie that this rich elderly Mexican might be of some use to furthering German propaganda in the Mexican interior—or perhaps it was the Count de Clermont, who also knew many foreigners resident in New York. At any rate, the rich Mexican was presented to the young Turkish woman.

Mme. Storch had never been to Mexico—"but she had heard marvellous tales of its beauty, the romantic simplicity of its people, and she was quite shocked to hear of the desolation that had been spread by the various revolutions of late



A "Turkish" Corner in the Famous "Peacock Alley" at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Where Mme. Storch Liked to Intrigue with Her Confederates and Her Victims Among Unsuspecting Men.

years. She had once met the exiled President, the elder Diaz, in Madrid—or was it Paris? Some place, some time, she remembered, and she remembered, too, how the stately, austere old man appealed to her imagination. She wished she could, in such small ways as were open to her, a very young woman, help bring prosperity and happiness to the dear Mexican people."

Perhaps we can hear Mme. Nezie languorously suggest she might, after all, do something—at least point the way to a new era for unfortunate Mexico. Perhaps if there were some one in Mexico—some statesman who had the interests of the country at heart and who would not be unwise, there might be a way for Mexico to make herself a prominent factor in the world's affairs and reap great benefits for itself and its

to its dangers from spies, and it is said she was the first to suspect the German, Hans Lodi, who was then posing as a British officer on leave, of being a German spy. Her suspicions afterward were justified by Lodi's execution as the head of the German spy ring then in England.

Miss Clifford was in London, too, when Mme. Storch, as Mme. Hesqueth, was at the height of her popularity with unsuspecting army and naval officers. She was in the very midst of war work in London then, and later learned from army friends that the beautiful and myster- ous Mme. Hesqueth had been arrested for spy- ing, as has been told on these pages.

At the Shoreham Hotel Miss Clifford and Mme. Storch often passed each other in the spacious hotel foyers. The stage favorite was puzzled, for a time, with her memory of having seen the